

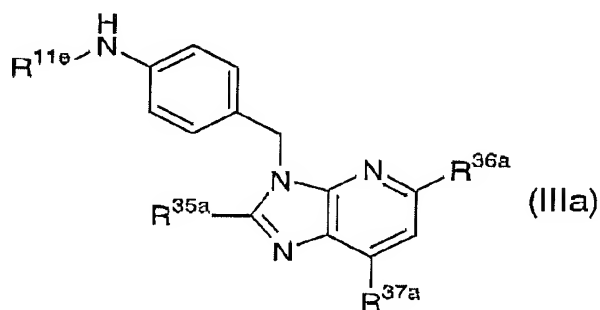
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1.-76. (Cancelled).

77. (Currently amended) A bicyclic heterocyclic compound represented by formula (IIIa):



[wherein  $R^{11e}$  represents substituted or unsubstituted lower cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic heterocyclic group, substituted or unsubstituted lower cycloalkylcarbonyl, ~~substituted or unsubstituted aroyl, substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic carbonyl (wherein an aromatic heterocyclic moiety of the aromatic heterocyclic carbonyl is not tetrazolyl),~~ substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy carbonyl,  $-C(=O)NHR^{15d}$  (wherein  $R^{15d}$  represents substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted aryl), or  $-S(O)_2R^{17a}$  (wherein  $R^{17a}$  represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl) and  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl] or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

78. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 77, wherein R<sup>11e</sup> is substituted or unsubstituted lower cycloalkyl.

79. (Withdrawn) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 77, wherein R<sup>11e</sup> is a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic heterocyclic group.

80. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 77, wherein R<sup>11e</sup> is substituted or unsubstituted cyclohexyl.

81. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 80, wherein R<sup>35a</sup>, R<sup>36a</sup>, and R<sup>37a</sup> are the same or different and each is lower alkyl.

82. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 80, wherein R<sup>35a</sup>, R<sup>36a</sup>, and R<sup>37a</sup> are methyl.

83. (Withdrawn) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 79, wherein R<sup>35a</sup>, R<sup>36a</sup>, and R<sup>37a</sup> are the same or different and each is lower alkyl.

84. (Withdrawn) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 79, wherein  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are methyl.

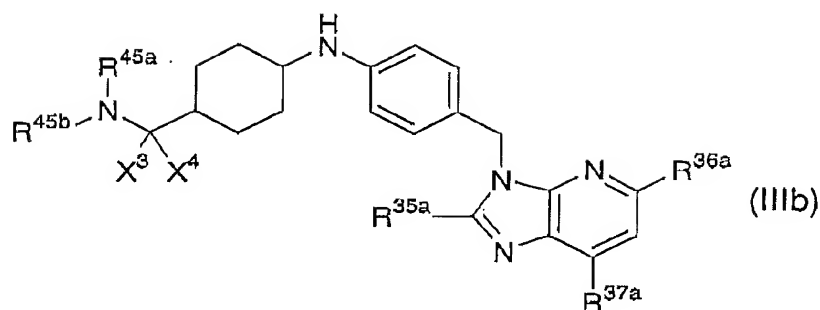
85. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 78, wherein  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are the same or different and each is lower alkyl.

86. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 78, wherein  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are methyl.

87. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 77, wherein  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are the same or different and each is lower alkyl.

88. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 77, wherein  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are methyl.

89. (Previously presented) A bicyclic heterocyclic compound represented by formula (IIIb):



(wherein  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  represent hydrogen atoms or  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are combined together to represent an oxygen atom,  $R^{45a}$  and  $R^{45b}$  are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, or  $R^{45a}$  and  $R^{45b}$  are combined together with the adjacent nitrogen atom thereto to form a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic heterocyclic group, and  $R^{35a}$ ,  $R^{36a}$ , and  $R^{37a}$  are the same or different and each represents lower alkyl) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

90. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 89, wherein  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are combined together to represent an oxygen atom.

91. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 89, wherein  $X^3$  and  $X^4$  are hydrogen atoms.

92. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 89, wherein  $R^{45a}$  is a hydrogen atom and  $R^{45b}$  is substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl.

93. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 89, wherein  $R^{45a}$  is a hydrogen atom and  $R^{45b}$  is lower alkyl substituted by aliphatic heterocyclic group.

94. (Currently amended) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 89, wherein  $R^{45a}$  is a hydrogen atom and  $R^{45b}$  is ethyl substituted by aliphatic heterocyclic group.[[.]]

95. (Previously presented) The bicyclic heterocyclic compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof according to claim 89, wherein  $R^{45a}$  and  $R^{45b}$  are combined together with the adjacent nitrogen atom thereto to form a substituted or unsubstituted aliphatic heterocyclic group.